

Kin-Buc compromise under study

By CHRIS PECK

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The state environmentalists who pounced on the Kin-Buc, Inc. landfill in Edison with a court order last week, threatening its existence, are considering a compromise.

State Department of Environmental Protection officials are considering restrictions in the operation, and limitations in the volume of chemicals and refuse accepted at the landfill as an alternative to closing it Monday.

It also appears likely that the landfill operators will be given a contingent approval

on their plans to expand to an adjacent 60-acre site, with added restrictions.

Beatrice Tylutki, director of solid waste management at the DEP, said she will meet with DEP Commissioner David Baradin today before releasing a statement on Kin-Buc's fate.

The state regulatory agency last week cited the landfill operators for environmental violations and gave them 10 days to close.

Kin-Buc is the only landfill authorized to mix garbage and chemicals in its disposal process. It plans to phase out that landfill when plans are approved for a more sophisticated treatment facility for chemical wastes.

The DEP supplied Kin-Buc with a list of alternative firms that could accept Kin-Buc's chemical waste, should Kin-Buc be closed. However, Ted Schwartz, Kin-Buc's attorney, complained that list contained mostly Kin-Buc customers.

He said these firms may treat chemicals, but they dump their residues at Kin-Buc.

Miss Tylutki seemed unconcerned, saying the firms could store the residue, since the situation would be only temporary. She said she was confident that a large treatment facility would be available within six months to a year in New Jersey. She also said no one but Kin-Buc has submitted plans for such a facility.

The DEP director would not reveal the agency's feelings toward the Kin-Buc expansion plans, which are projected to require six to eight months for construction.

The new facility, also to be located at Meadow Road on the Raritan River, is referred to in the plans as Kin-Buc II and Kin-Buc III.

Peter Dunlap, president of Chem-Trol, See COMPROMISE, Page 4

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Pollution Services, Inc., Model City, N.Y., explained that the new treatment center would be the largest of its kind in the country, with a capacity for 300,000 gallons of liquid waste per day.

Plans call for a series of neutralization and oxidation processes for the hazardous chemicals. Leachate and some solids resulting in the process would be disposed off at a landfill, which would not collect refuse. Scientific, Inc. is the parent company of Kin-Buc. A refuse landfill would also be operated at about the same capacity of Kin-Buc I — or 550,000 tons per year. Chemicals which cannot be successfully processed for disposal will be disposed in drum containers packed in a preserving substance, Dunlap said.

However, non-contained materials which Chem-Trol would not be able to treat would be refused, he said.

The new Kin-Buc site would be operated by Gaess Environmental Services, a joint venture owned by Scientific, Inc. and SCA Services, Inc. of Boston, a multi-national firm with 98 subsidiaries. Chem-Trol is one of those subsidiaries.

Gaess would handle all chemical treatment and collection at the Kin-Buc chemical treatment facility and landfill. However, Schwartz stressed Gaess does not dispose of chemicals; Kin-Buc is in charge of disposal.

John Sully, a member of Middlesex County's planning staff, said the state should develop such facilities in some overall plan, warning that otherwise Middlesex County will become the state's largest dumping area.

Miss Tylutki said the state Senate has approved legislation for such a plan, but has yet to finance it. She said her job now is to act on plans submitted to the DEP's solid waste division.

William Godwin, Edison public works director, asked if the state planned to override the objections of Edison, noting that the Edison site occupied by Kin-Buc is not zoned for landfill use.

She said the state agency has been given such power but she did not wish to override local objection. She added she was hoping some kind of compromise could be reached among local, county and state officials as well as with Kin-Buc.